

# The Embedded Muse 76

Editor: Jack Ganssle ([jack@ganssle.com](mailto:jack@ganssle.com))

October 16, 2002

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EDITOR: Jack Ganssle, [jack@ganssle.com](mailto:jack@ganssle.com)

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## Editor's Notes

What awful economic times! I can't pick up a paper without reading of massive layoffs. The embedded world is suffering more than most since so much of it revolves around datacom and telecom, which are two of the hardest-hit industries in this recession.

I hear from a lot of engineers who are without work and desperate for a job. I have neither the time nor the skills to be a matchmaker, but can't bear to see so many people being left adrift. So as an experiment, starting with this issue you'll find a "jobs" section in the Muse from time to time. This week there's an inquiry from a search firm looking for an embedded person; no doubt others will surface too, and I'll run these as appropriate. The Muse has never accepted advertising; these are being run for free as a service to the embedded community, and come with no endorsements from me. I \*really\* don't want to turn the Muse into an outlet for all of the headhunters in the world, but do wish to make some effort to help those in need. Please let me know what you think of this.

In my October column in Embedded Systems Programming (<http://embedded.com/story/OEG20020926S0063>) I mentioned a CAD program named Designworks Lite (<http://www.dwlite.com>). Quite a few readers wrote in to say that EAGLE (<http://www.cadsoftusa.com/>) is also a great and cheap CAD program. I haven't used it, but have never had so many people write about one product. What a loyal following! It sounds like another winner.

Software Development Magazine's most recent issue (November 2002) has a salary survey for software folks. Check it out or catch it online at

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<http://www.sdmagazine.com/documents/s=7664/sdm0211a/sdm0211a.html>. Bottom line – average programmer salaries in the USA run about \$89k.

## Embedded Seminars

I'll be presenting my Better Firmware Faster seminar in Irvine, CA on December 4 and Dallas, TX on December 6. See <http://www.ganssle.com/classes.htm> for more information. This is the only non-vendor class around that shows practical, hard-hitting ways to get your products out much faster with fewer bugs. The crummy economy is putting pressure on all developers– come and learn the tricks you need to be more efficient.

I often do this seminar on-site, for companies with ten or more embedded folks who'd like to learn more efficient ways to build firmware. See

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## ESC and SD Double Header

This year's Embedded Systems Conference in Boston runs November 18-21 at the Hynes Convention Center. I'm giving two talks (Managing Embedded Projects, and Really Real Time), and will be running a shop talk as well. Please stop in and say hello. There's more info at <http://www.esconline.com/>.

And this year the SD (Software Development) Conference runs in the same location at the same time. This is too good to miss – two conventions in one. SD runs November 18-22, also at the Hynes Convention Center. See <http://www.sdexpo.com/> for details.

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## Thought for the Week

Check out:

[http://www.plexus-technologies.com/FunStuff/Movies/movies\\_we'd\\_like\\_to\\_see.shtml](http://www.plexus-technologies.com/FunStuff/Movies/movies_we'd_like_to_see.shtml)

Fun movies we'd like to see. Included:

- Indiana Jones and the Processor of Doom
- Commando Engineer
- Force 10 from Silicon

And more. It's worth a gander.

## About The Embedded Muse

The Embedded Muse is an occasional newsletter sent via email by Jack Ganssle. Send complaints, comments, and contributions to him at [jack@ganssle.com](mailto:jack@ganssle.com).

To subscribe, send a message to [majordomo@ganssle.com](mailto:majordomo@ganssle.com), with the words "subscribe embedded *your-email-address*" in the body. To unsubscribe, change the message to "unsubscribe embedded *your-email-address*".

The Embedded Muse is supported by The Ganssle Group, whose mission is to help embedded folks get better products to market faster. We offer seminars at your site offering hard-hitting ideas - and action - you can take now to *improve firmware quality and decrease development time*. Contact us at [info@ganssle.com](mailto:info@ganssle.com) for more information.

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